

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 135644

66

ORIGIN USIA-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CU-04 SS-20 /050 R

DRAFTED BY: ILA:WHRODGERS,

APPROVED BY: ILA:DDILLON

CLEARANCES: ARA/CU/CAR:FHENNEKE, I/SO:GGODWIN

----- 009968

O 242251Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 135644

EO11652 NA

SUBJECT : U.S. WOMEN IN POLITICS

REF: NASSAU 1110

1. ALTHOUGH WEALTH OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE ON SUBJECT, SPACE AND TIME PRECLUDE PROVIDING MORE ADEQUATE REPLY YOUR REQUEST. TRUST FACTS BELOW WILL BE OF SOME USE.

2. WOMAN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION AT SENECA FALLS, N.Y., JULY 1848, GENERALLY CITED AS BEGINNING OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT IN U.S. ELIZABETH CADY STANTON READ THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AT THAT MEETING WHICH THEREAFTER BECAME TEXT FOR MOVEMENT AND WAS MUCH BROADER AND REVOLUTIONARY DOCUMENT THAN SIMPLE CLAIM FOR FRANCHISE. DECLARATION DEMANDED RIGHT OF WOMEN TO OWN PROPERTY, SHARE IN CUSTODY OF THEIR CHILDREN, GAIN EDUCATION, ENTER PROFESSIONS, ETC.

3. TO RALLY SUFFRAGETTES, NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION HEADED BY STANTON AND SUSAN B. ANTHONY AND THE AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION LED BY LUCY STONE AND JULIA WARD HOWE WERE FORMED IN 1869. FORMER WORKED FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ENFRANCHISE WOMEN; LATTER GAVE PRIORITY TO STATE-BY-STATE APPROACH. AFTER 1870 BOTH GROUPS TENDED TO REJECT THE MORE RADICAL APPEALS FOR FULL EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND CONCENTRATED ON SUFFRAGE ISSUE. TWO ORGANIZATIONS JOINED AS NATIONAL AMERICAN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 135644

WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION IN 1890, BUT NO TANGIBLE SUCCESS IN

19TH CENTURY. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS IN 1878 BUT DEFEATED BY SENATE IN 1887. BY 1900 ONLY FOUR UNDER-POPULATED STATES (WYOMING, COLORADO, UTAH AND IDAHO) HAD GRANTED WOMEN FRANCHISE.

4. 19TH AMENDMENT GIVING WOMEN FRANCHISE APPROVED BY TWO-THIRDS OF U.S. CONGRESS JUNE 4, 1919. PROCLAMATION CERTIFYING TENNESSEE, LAST OF 36 STATES NEEDED TO PASS THE AMENDMENT, HAD RATIFIED IT SIGNED AUGUST 26, 1920.

5. IMPOSSIBLE PROVIDE COMPLETE LIST OF DISTINGUISHED U.S. WOMEN IN POLITICS, BUT AMONG FIRST WOMEN ACHIEVING SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL SUCCESS WERE: JEANETTE RANKIN ELECTED 1916 TO HOUSE FROM MONTANA, DEFEATED FOR RE-ELECTION AND TWICE DEFEATED AS CANDIDATE FOR SENATE, RETURNED TO HOUSE IN 1924. NELLIE TAYLOR ROSS ELECTED GOVERNOR WYOMING 1924 AND MIRIAM FERGUSON ELECTED GOVERNOR TEXAS.

ROSS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF U.S. MINT 1933 FIRST WOMAN HOLDING THAT OFFICE. HATTIE CARAWAY OF ARKANSAS APPOINTED U.S. SENATE 1931 TO COMPLETE DECEASED HUSBAND'S TERM. LATER WON TWO MORE TERMS ON OWN. MARGARET CHASE SMITH OF MAINE FIRST WOMAN WHO SERVED IN BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE AND FIRST WOMAN EITHER MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY SEEKING CANDIDACY FOR REPUBLICAN NOMINATION AS PRESIDENT OF U.S. JUDGE FLORENCE E. ALLEN 1920 ELECTED JUDGE OF COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO; 1922 BECAME FIRST WOMAN MEMBER ELECTED OHIO SUPREME COURT; APPOINTED U.S. COURT OF APPEALS, HIGHEST FEDERAL COURT BELOW SUPREME COURT. FRANCES PERKINS FIRST WOMAN IN CABINET AS U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR.

6. FOLLOWING SIXTEEN WOMEN CURRENTLY SERVING IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: BELLA S. ABZUG, DEMO, N.Y.; CORRINE C. BOGGS, DEMO, LA.; YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE, DEMO, CALI.; SHIRLEY CHRISHOLM, DEMO, N.Y.; CARDISS R. COLLINS, DEMO, ILL.; ELLA GRASSO, DEMO, CONN.; EDITH GREEN, DEMO, ORE.; MARTHA W. GRIFFITHS, DEMO, MICH.; JULIA BUTLER HANSEN, DEMO, WASH.; MARGARET M. HECKLER, REP., MASS.; MARJORIE S. HOLT, REP. MD.; ELIZABETH HOLTZMAN, DEMO, N.Y.; BARBARA JORDAN, DEMO, TEX. (FIRST BLACK WOMAN ELECTED FROM SOUTH); PATSY MINK, DEMO, HAWAII; PATRICIA SCHROEDER, DEMO, COLO.; LEONOR SULLIVAN, DEMO, MO. NO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 135644

WOMAN CURRENTLY SERVING IN SENATE SINCE DEFEAT MARGARET CHASE SMITH IN 1972; FIRST TIME NO WOMAN SINCE 1948.

7. IN ADDITION SIXTEEN CONGRESSWOMAN, IN 1973 THERE WERE 441 WOMEN IN STATE LEGISLATURES, TWENTY-SIX STATE-WIDE EXECUTIVE POSITIONS INCLUDING SEVEN SECRETARIES OF STATE, EIGHT TREASURES, THREE STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES, 42 MAYORS OF 1000 LARGEST U.S. CITIES AND 27 MAYORS IN 750 U.S. CITIES WITH POPULATION OVER

30,000. AS OF MAY 1974, FOLLOWING WOMEN CANDIDATES: 108 FOR
CONGRESS; 10 FOR GOVERNOR; 12 FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, 27 OTHER
STATE-WIDE EXECUTIVE JOBS; 671 FOR STATE LEGISLATURES;
KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WOMEN, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, CULTURAL EXCHANGES, MEETINGS, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE135644
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ILA:WHRODGERS,
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740165-1122
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740618/aaaaapep.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN USIA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: NASSAU 1110
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 30 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 AUG 2002 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <13 JAN 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : U.S. WOMEN IN POLITICS
TAGS: SCUL, BF, US, (COLE-TIERNEY, SYLVIA), (STANTON, ELIZABETH CADY), (ANTHONY, SUSAN B), (RANKIN, JEANETT), (HOWE, JULIA WARD), (STONE, LUCY)
To: NASSAU
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005